

FACULTY OF SCIENCE Charles University

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RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Are past and present settlements in Limi located in safe sites?
- What do the sources tell us about the reasons for past relocations?
- Which concerns shape the perception of natural hazards in Limi?

METHODS

Interdisciplinary: remote sensing, terrain analysis, historical research and fieldwork

NATURAL HAZARDS

- Debris flows, GLOFs
- Rock falls, old landslides
- Snow disaster, Oct 2014



Historical debris flow





Recurrent debris flow (in 2004, 2006 -2009 and 2011)

Halji village: destroyed houses, threatened monastery

2.

3.

1.

Relocations of settlements in Limi Valley in Humla driven by natural hazards in the context of changing climate?

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STUDY AREA

- Harsh climate, lot of snow
- Remoteness
- Tibetan speaking community
- Ancient Buddhist monastery in Halji

RELOCATION & ABANDONEMENT



Til village: According to local people, the reason for moving the village was limited water availability and irrigation problems

- Halji village: Local people explained that many generations ago, the village was moved to the current location, seeking refuge around the monastery. Several theories circulate.
- The abandoned settlement of Gumpayok: Local legends contain several elements including the vengeful spirit of a local lama, conflict, draught, and disease



- 3.
- 4.



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CONCLUSIONS

1. The past locations of Til and Halji were safer from a scientific perspective

2. The reasons of relocations remain unclear, but sources suggest multiple concerns

The recent discussion about the relocation of Halji involves multiple environmental, economic, religious and socio-political concerns showing the complexity of risk perception.

Exposure to natural hazards is often overridden by competing concerns

MITIGATION MEASURES

Construction of gabion wall in Halji as a community effort.